

equal number...

A copy of the claims as presently amended is presented herewith.

Remarks

The above effected amendments are made pursuant to the Examiner's suggestions, and are believed to put this application in condition for allowance.

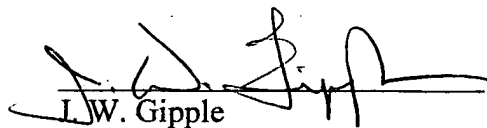
Regarding the rejection based on cited prior art, applicant submits that none of the references anticipate the present invention.

Claims 6-10 specify, "...foot supports attached to the bottom surface of said stand and extending perpendicularly outward therefrom" and "...end sections being divided at a point commencing at or near one of said foot supports".

The Mourots and Hoffman patents have no such foot supports. Although they may disclose a forked or divided end section, such sections clearly do not commence at or near a foot support. An essential aspect of the present invention is the positioning of the forked end section relative to the foot support. It provides the stability so important in a hammock support stand.

In view of the foregoing, favorable reconsideration is requested.

Respectfully submitted,


L.W. Gipple
Attorney for Applicant

Date: October 7, 2005
Attorney Ref. X-9454